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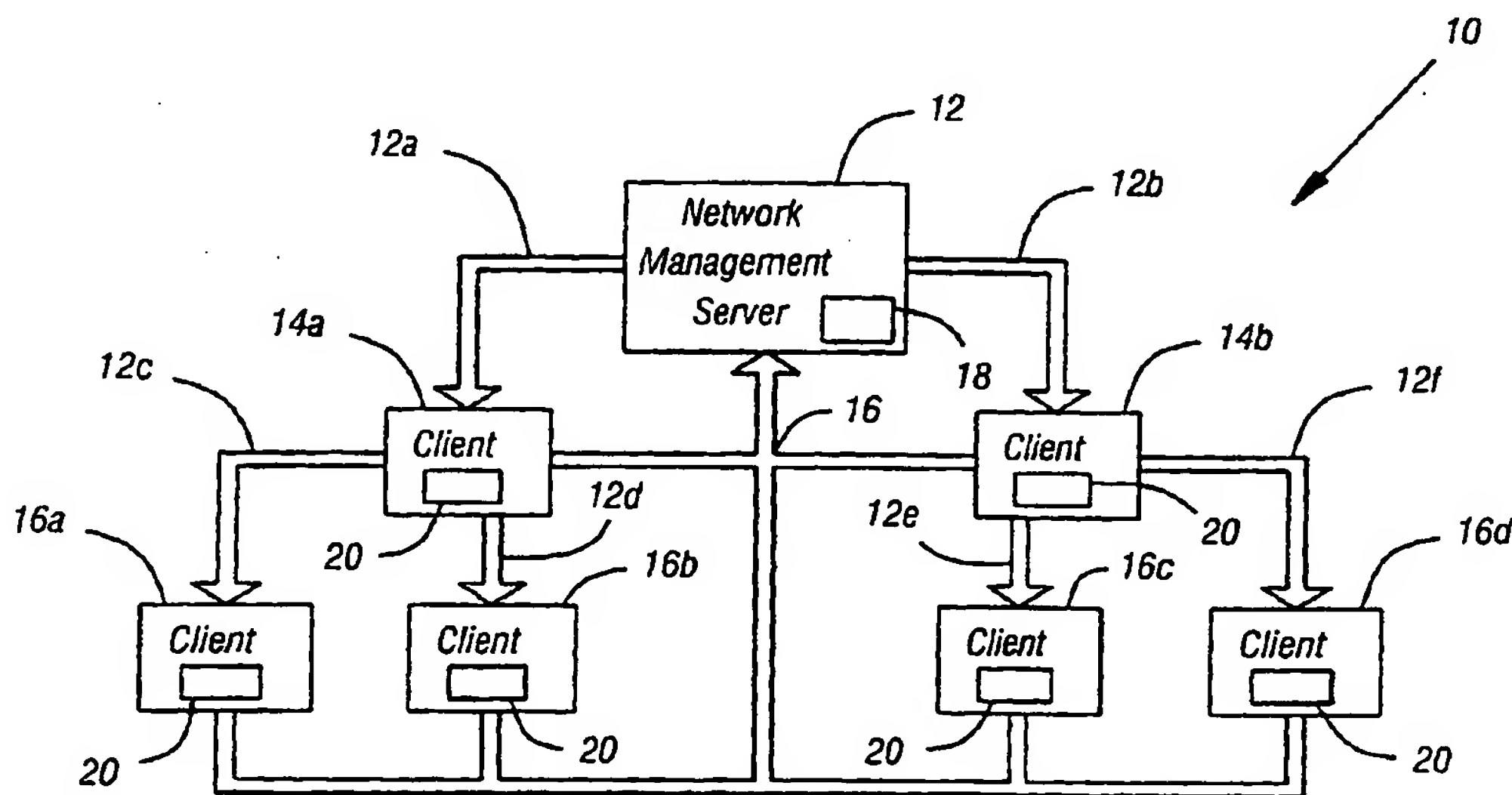
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(54) Title: **PEER TO PEER SOFTWARE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**



(57) Abstract: Software packages may be distributed to a plurality of clients in a network by initially distributing the software from a server to one or more clients. Those clients may then be enabled to forward the software package on to other clients contained in a list of addressee clients. Each client that receives the software package may then be called upon, in turn, to forward the software package to additional clients on the list. In this way, the load on the network management server, related to the distribution of software to a large number of clients in a network, may be reduced.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F9/445 H04L12/58 H04L12/18 H04L29/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H04L G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 850 396 A (GILBERT TIMOTHY G) 15 December 1998 (1998-12-15) column 3, line 58 -column 4, line 14 column 7, line 14-32	1,6,11, 16,21,25
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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